Turbine Topics

Vol. 6, No. 7 Issued For and By the Employees of S. Morgan Smith Co. February, 1949

PHOTOGRAPH BY GRANT H. VOADEN

BIESECKER'S MILL

"Retirement at Age 65"
PAGE 2

"Old Mills on the Little Conewago Creek"
PAGE 10

Retirement at Age 65

Beauchamp E. Smith, President, as he addressed the entire personnel of the Company on inauguration of the retirement plan.

Before a large mass meeting of all of the employees of the Company on February 1, 1949, 30 employees who had attained the retirement age of 65 were honored by our President who delivered the message found on the right of this page. After his message he personally presented each man with a brief résumé of their lives with the Company and each with their first monthly retirement check.

To many who remain with the Company it means the retirement of many men who were instrumental in bringing to S.M.S. world recognition in the Hydraulic Turbine field; to others, it means the loss of familiar faces in the shop and offices; and to many others it means the loss of men whose memory of the old days could hold you spellbound for several hours at a time as they reflected incidents out of the past.

On the succeeding six pages you will find photographs of these men as they were congratulated by B. E. Smith, and to each one we extend our best wishes for a long life doing the things each of you has dreamed of for many years.

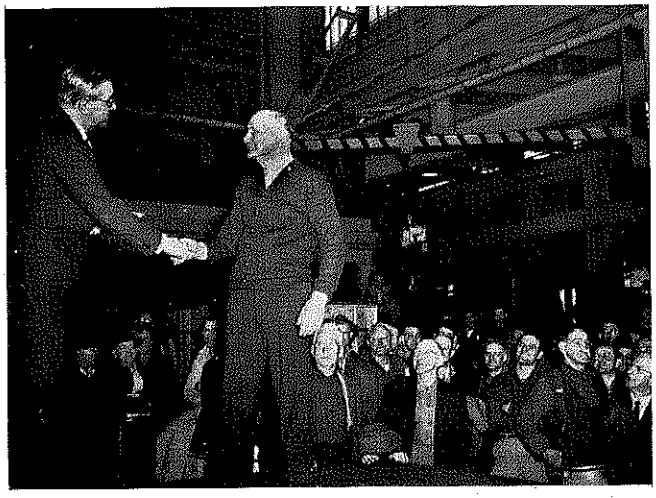
What Our President Said

Today marks one of the most important milestones in our Company's history, one for which we in Management have been hoping and planning for many years. Our objective has been to be able to finance an adequate retirement program which would permit those men and women who have grown old in the service of the Company to retire with an insured income which will permit them to live simply, but in comfort, with time to enjoy themselves during the remaining years of their lives.

We believe that we have now accomplished this objective. The funds to establish this Pension Plan have been irrevocably turned over to the Central Hanover Bank and Trust Company, one of the country's largest banking institutions, to be held for your account as trustees. The bank, in its capacity as trustees, will see that the funds are properly invested so that the necessary sums will be available for each and every one of you when pension checks are drawn for your benefit.

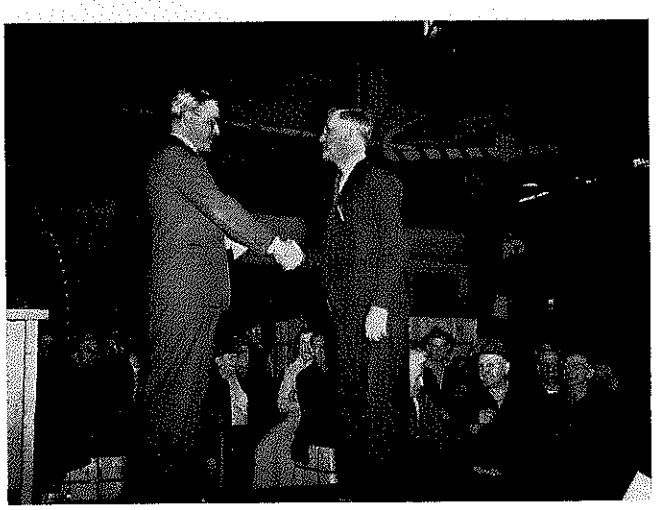
Your pension will begin when you retire in accordance with our plan and will be paid to you regardless of whether or not you obtain employment elsewhere, and of course, if you do not work, you will receive additional compensation under Federal Old Age Benefits.

I find myself torn by mixed emotions this afternoon as I have a distinct feeling of pleasure in being able to distribute these first pension checks under our retirement plan, but at the same time, I am regretting the thought that I will no longer be regularly seeing the familiar faces of those who are about to retire. Most of the men in this group have been with the Company for many years and the Company has grown and prospered through their efforts. They have set an example for all of us through their loyalty and untiring efforts, and it is up to us who remain to carry on in a manner of which they would be proud.



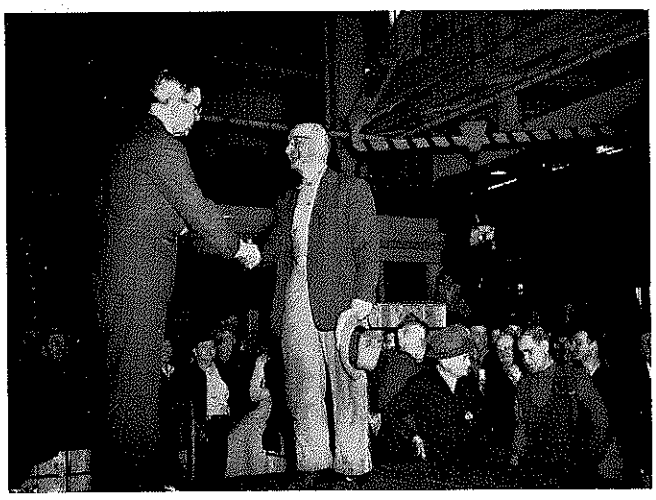
FREDERICK KUHLMAN—47 years of service

GEORGE A. JESSOP—47 years of service

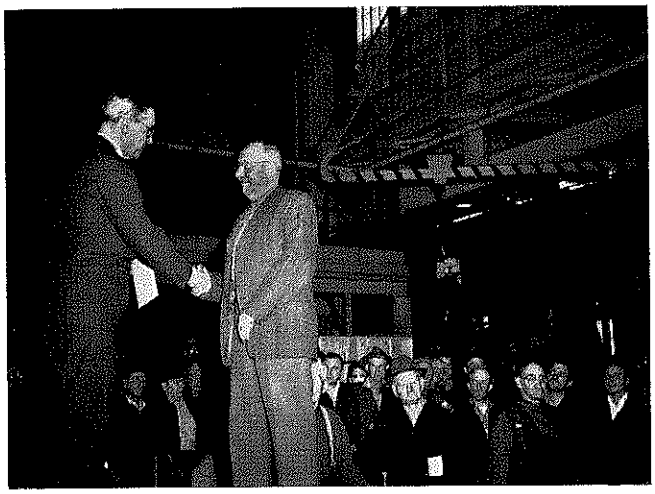


FERD WITMER—43 years of service

CHARLES T. SNAVE—42 years of service

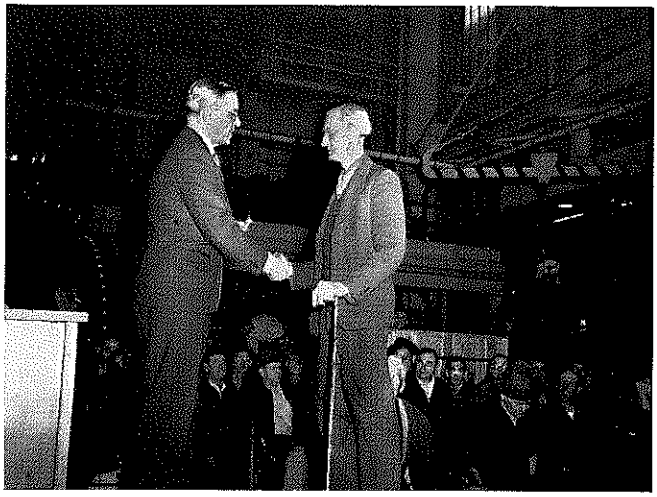


GEORGE E. HAARE—42 years of service

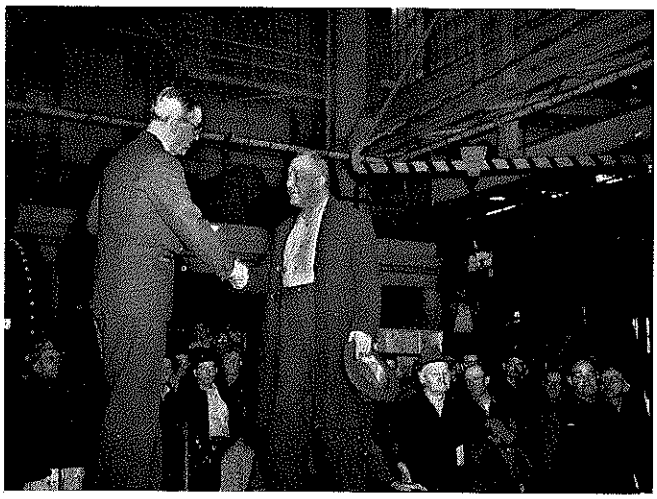


ALBERT ADREON—42 years of service

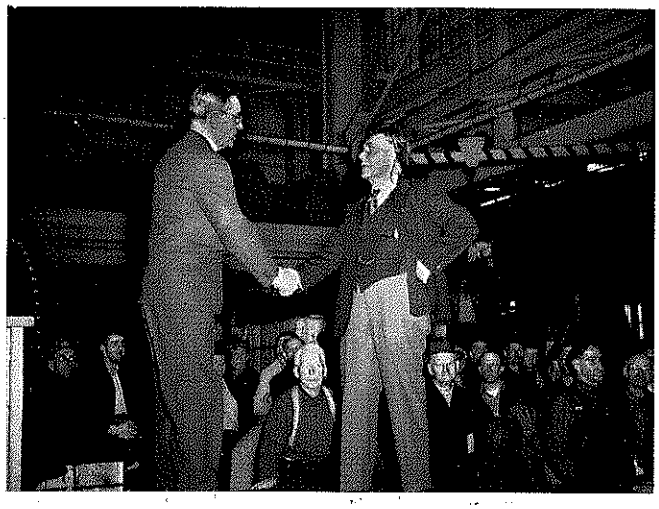
ARTHUR G. SMITH—41 years of service



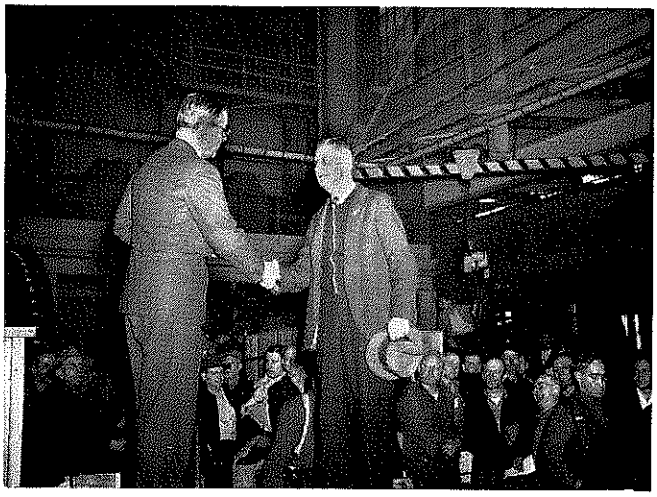
GEORGE W. TROUT—40 years of service



CHARLES P. WESTRICK—40 years of service



EDWARD PRINCE—38 years of service

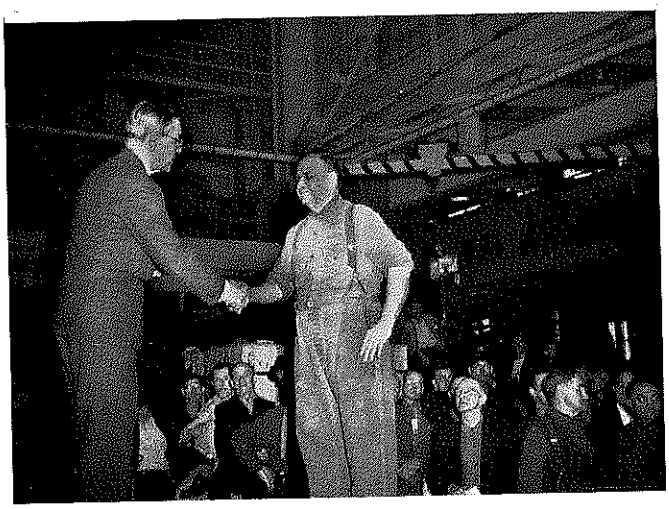


SAMUEL L. STAYMAN—36 years of service

BERNARD H. DENUES—34 years of service

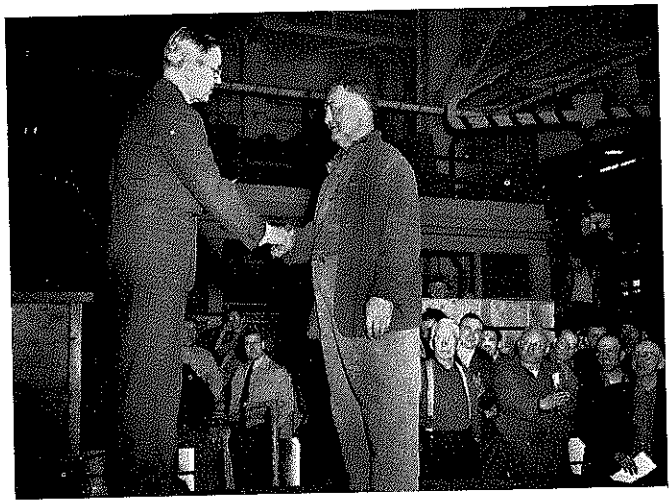
HARRY F. KEENEY—34 years of service

EDGAR A. BAIR—33 years of service

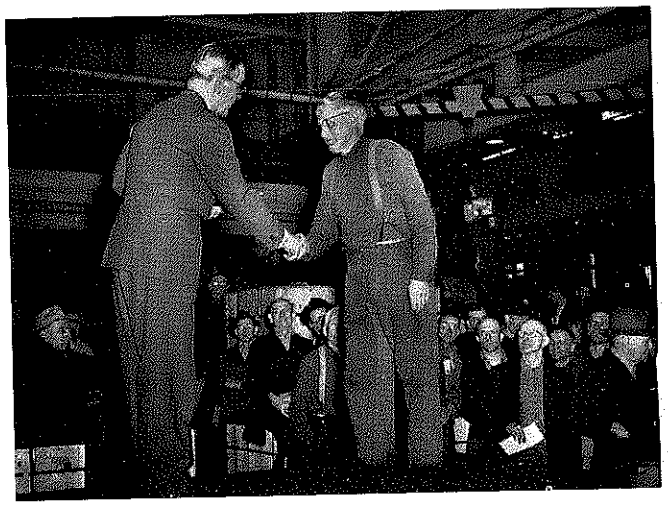


WILLIAM H. GROSS—32 years of service

JAMES H. BRADY—30 years of service

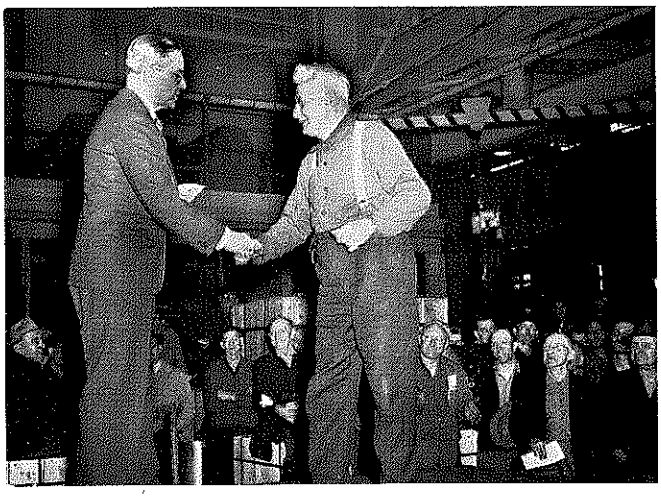


GEORGE WILDASIN—30 years of service

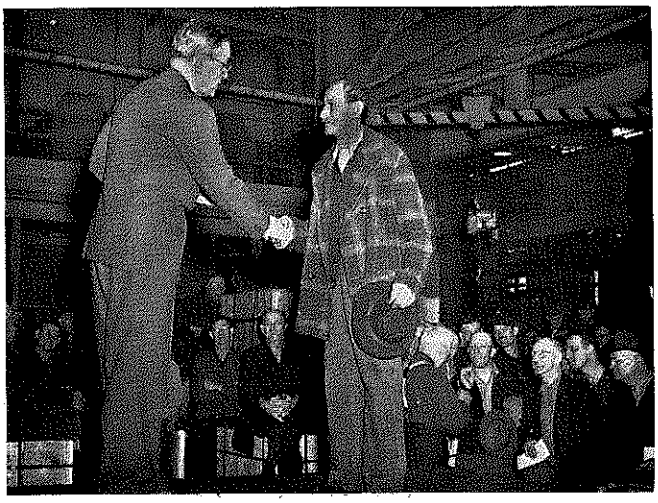


HARRY KRALL—30 years of service

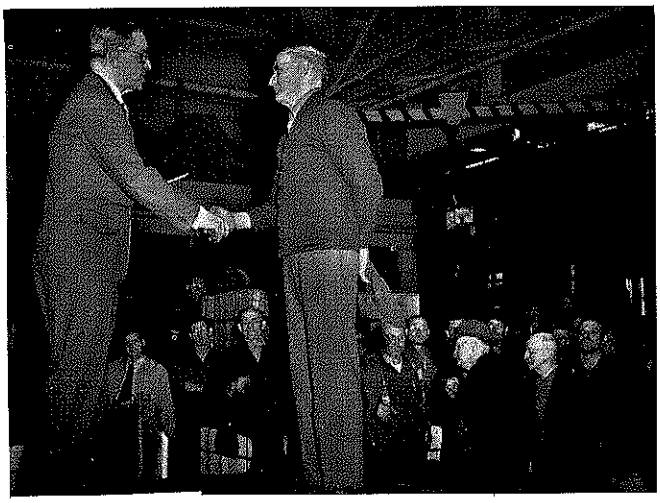
GEORGE H. BECK—28 years of service



ENGLEHART D. BENTZEL—28 years of service



GEORGE E. MELHORN—23 years of service



ERNST HERZOG—21 years of service

OLIVER SNYDER—10 years of service

DAVID L. BAIR—6 years of service

Left: Duncan D. McArthur, Secretary, as he "took to the broom" after the retirement ceremony to clear away the flash bulbs used by the photographer. Assisting him are several men, one of whom is Grant H. Voaden, assistant Chief Engineer, which seemed to delight quite a few of the retiring men.

Below: A photograph of the entire group taken after their official retirement. They are, from left to right: William McIlvain, Harry Krall, Samuel Stayman, George Haare, Fred Kuhlman, Albert Adreon, Abraham Crull, Joseph Williams, George Beck, Arthur G. Smith, Charles Snave, Ernst Herzog, George Trout, Harry Keeney, George Schlaanstine, James S. T. Strayer, Ferd Witmer, Edward Prince, Englehart Bentzel, Charles Zech, George Melhorn, Charles Westrick, William Gross, Edgar Bair, Bernard H. Denues, George Jessop, David Bair and Oliver Snyder. Not shown on the above photograph are James Brady and George Wildasin.

Insurance Claims Paid

FROM NOVEMBER 23, 1948, TO JANUARY 22, 1949

Date	Name	Amount
Nov. 24	James Lloyd	$ 47.14
Nov. 24	James Lloyd	7.00
Nov. 26	William Fissel	35.00
Nov. 26	Jesse Rowe	30.00
Nov. 26	Helen Lawrence	40.00
Nov. 26	Paul Shuler	66.00
Nov. 29	Vere Balmer	222.00
Nov. 29	Edward Wills	5.00
Nov. 29	Wilmer Mast	100.29
Dec. 1	Helen Lawrence	20.00
Dec. 2	Helen Lawrence	253.36
Dec. 2	Roland Shaffer	131.43
Dec. 2	Roland Shaffer	9.00
Dec. 2	John Shenberger	30.00
Dec. 2	Paul Grissinger	222.00
Dec. 6	William Fissel	35.00
Dec. 6	Jesse Rowe	30.00
Dec. 7	John Shenberger	30.00
Dec. 8	Helen Lawrence	20.00
Dec. 9	Raymond Hess	77.00
Dec. 10	Guerney Keesey	30.00
Dec. 10	Paul Heidler	2.00
Dec. 10	Paul Heidler	10.00
Dec. 10	Jesse Rowe	30.00
Dec. 13	Lester Spangler	25.00
Dec. 13	William Fissel	35.00
Dec. 14	John Shenberger	30.00
Dec. 14	Guerney Keesey	30.00
Dec. 15	Fred Reiley	30.00
Dec. 16	William Musser	10.00
Dec. 16	Walter Rohrbaugh	15.00
Dec. 16	Helen Lawrence	20.00
Dec. 16	Levi Stengle	8.00
Dec. 17	Jesse Rowe	30.00
Dec. 17	William Fissel	35.00
Dec. 20	John Shenberger	30.00
Dec. 20	Helen Lawrence	20.00
Dec. 20	Fred Reiley	8.57
Dec. 20	Guerney Keesey	10.00
Dec. 22	Stewart Rauhauser	50.00
Dec. 28	Fred Reiley	2.00
Dec. 28	Harry Boyer	3.75
Dec. 28	Harry Boyer	8.57
Dec. 28	Anthony Hoffman	41.00
Dec. 28	John Shenberger	30.00
Dec. 29	Guerney Keesey	10.00
Dec. 29	Helen Lawrence	20.00
Dec. 29	William Myers	184.00
Dec. 30	Jesse Rowe	35.00
Jan. 4	John Shenberger	30.00
Jan. 4	Guerney Keesey	20.00
Jan. 4	Fred Reiley	2.00
Jan. 5	Helen Lawrence	20.00
Jan. 5	Ervin Frigm	30.00
Jan. 5	Lloyd Shaffer	51.43
Jan. 11	John Shenberger	30.00
Jan. 11	Guerney Keesey	20.00
Jan. 12	Ervin Frigm	6.00
Jan. 12	Harry Shanabrough	45.22
Jan. 12	Leland Doll	160.00
Jan. 12	Helen Lawrence	20.00
Jan. 17	Jesse Rowe	21.00
Jan. 17	Roy Craft	40.00
Jan. 17	Oliver Bitner	60.00
Jan. 17	Melvin J. Trone	42.86
Jan. 17	Melvin J. Trone	16.00
Jan. 18	John Shenberger	30.00
Jan. 19	Guerney Keesey	13.00
Jan. 19	Guerney Keesey	14.29
Jan. 19	Roy Craft	17.14
Jan. 20	Arline Chalker	210.00
Jan. 20	Ellsworth Bulk	50.00
Jan. 20	Jacob Bowman	120.00
Jan. 20	Helen Lawrence	20.00
Jan. 20	Jonathan Owen	240.00
Total		$3,532.05
Total amount paid in claims from June 23, 1948 to January 23, 1949		$19,507.37

O'BOY!

I would I were beside the sea,
Or sailing in a boat,
With all the things I've got to write,
Wrote.

I would I were away from town
As far as I could get,
With all the bills I've got to meet,
Met.

I would I were out on a farm,
A-basking in the sun,
With all the work I've got to do,
Done.

The good things of life are not to be had singly, but come to us with a mixture.

* * *

I don't have to make over the universe; I have only to do my own small job, and to look up often at the trees and the hills and the sky, and to be friendly with all men.

S. MORGAN SMITH CO.
YORK, PENNSYLVANIA

Editorial Staff

EDITORS—Raymond A. Dietz, Elmer E. Aughenbaugh, E. Everett Pierce, Jr., Grant H. Voaden.
ART EDITOR—Rodney W. Bond.
ASST. TO EDITORS—Waldemar H. Senft.

Old Mills on the Little Conewago Creek

By GRANT H. VOADEN
Assistant Chief Engineer

The story of the old mills—of which there were about 250 in York County—is not just of buildings and machinery but of the lives of people. It is a story of romance along the mill race, of fishing, swimming and skating at the mill pond, of the good corn meal ground on the stones; but sometimes, too, of painful accidents in the mill, of fights over water rights and of bankruptcy.

My interest in the old mills began as a search for photographic subject matter along the nearby streams—and I find it aplenty and have dozens of interesting experiences besides. Once on looking in a stable door, I saw a man sitting on a stool behind a cow—just sitting there holding the cow's tail. Concealing my surprise as best I could, I conversed with him for several minutes from the doorway before discovering to my relief that all was as it should be. The good man was merely doing his duty as official tail holder while his wife, hidden from view, milked the cow.

To assemble the complete history of all the mills on the Little Conewago is beyond me—one cannot be certain even of the total number—however, I definitely know of fourteen. At least seven of these mills had S.M.S. turbines, a total of 14 units, five of which were furnished in 1877, the year our Company was founded.

Of all these mills only one is still in full-time operation—J. F. Biesecker and Sons'. This mill is a familiar sight to most people, being within view to the north of the East Berlin Road (see Cover Picture). The construction of the present red brick mill was begun by Peter Smyser who owned the property from 1807 to 1841 and completed by the next owner, Michael Stover. There was, however, a mill on the site prior to the present one, a stone building about one hundred yards down the stream, part of a former race being still visible. The older mill was there at least as far back as March 31, 1807, as a deed from John Stauffer, who owned the property from 1774 to 1807, mentions "mills thereon." This term does not necessarily mean that there was more than one mill. The plural was often used for designating mill properties, especially where the same water power was used to do more than one specific kind of work. At this site, for example, there was a grist mill, flour mill, saw mill and distillery. The distillery used corn and rye ground in the mill and was a very important part of many mills. Transportation was slow and hazardous in those days and by reducing the bulky grain to whiskey it could be gotten to its market much easier.

The present mill now contains a Fitz steel overshoot wheel installed by Mr. Biesecker in 1933. It is 20'-2" diameter, 5 ft. breadth, runs at 6 R.P.M. and develops 35 H.P. The previous wheel was also a Fitz overshoot,

"The Jolly Miller," John F. Biesecker, smiles as he transacts business with a customer. Note the money bag—typical of all millers, the prices of feed, the salt lick in the corner.

COVER PICTURE

Biesecker's Mill, built about 1840-1845, on site of older stone mill. Owners were George Myer to 1767, Daniel Reicher to 1772, Philip Weis to 1774, John Stauffer to 1807, Peter Smyser to 1841, Michael Stover to 1854, Samuel Gross to 1872, William Julius to 1905, Elmer B. Eisenhart to 1920 and John Biesecker to the present time.

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Assistant Chief Engineer

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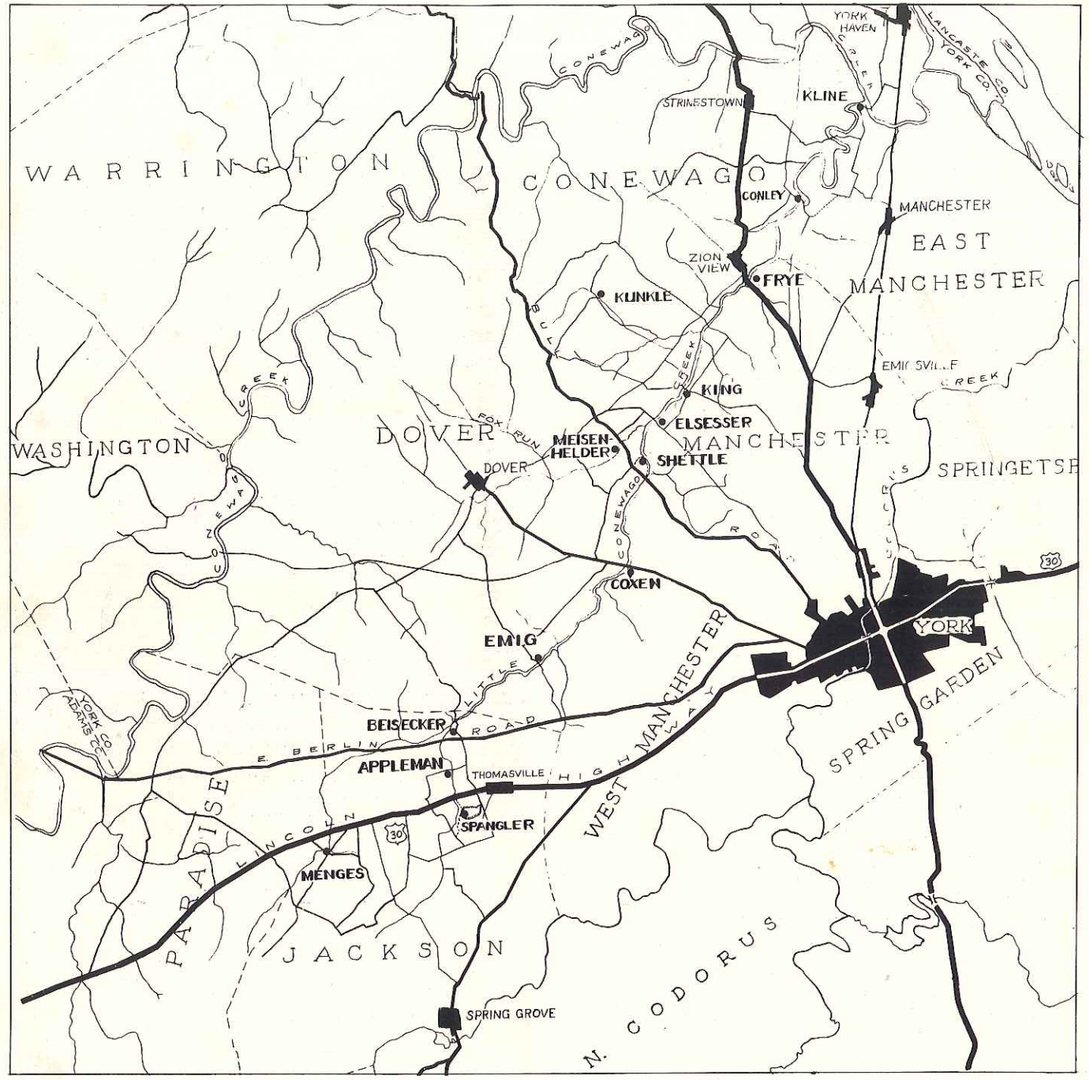
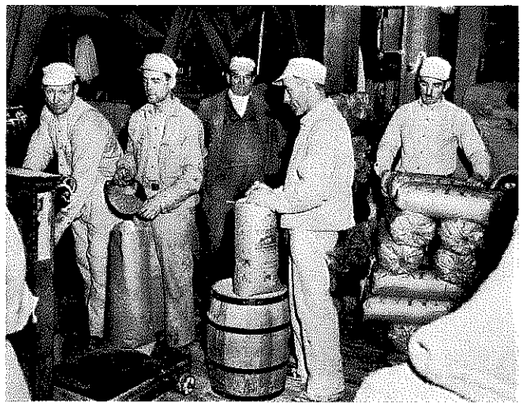


The above map shows the location of 14 mills driven by water power on the Little Conewago Creek. Of the 14 only two are still in operation—Norman Menges' saw mill and Biesecker's flour and feed mill.—Map by Rodney Bond.

3 ft. breadth, installed by Elmer Eisenhart in 1906. Prior to that there was a Burnham Turbine made in Glen Rock and originally two wooden overshots. Originally, there were four run of stones but these are now all gone, replaced by an attrition mill for grinding feed and corn meal, and four flour rollers which will grind 120 barrels of flour per day. The products are White Lily and White Swan flour made mostly from local wheat; also Yorco Dog Ration. Although our Company never furnished a turbine for this mill, we did make many sets of maple cogs for its gearing during the ownership of Elmer B. Eisenhart from 1905 to 1920.

The only other mill still in operation on this creek system is at the headwaters of Paradise Creek which joins the Little Conewago just below Biesecker's. This mill is located just south of Farmer's, on the Lincoln



Mr. Biesecker, center, and his boys, right to left, Glen, N. Carrol and Joe, and at extreme left, Floyd Rauhauser. They are grouped around the mixer, packaging Yorco Dog Ration. Note conveyors in background to and from the flour rolls.

Highway, close to the Pigeon Hills; Absolem Menges built it, then his son Jacob had it, now the grandson, Norman Menges, uses it in season to saw logs. The waterwheel is a Fitz steel overshoot, 16 ft. diameter by 3 ft. breadth, which is geared to a circular saw and one feed stone and develops 15 H.P. at 7¼ R.P.M. It is the only mill I know of still in operation where the mill and the house are under one roof.

Now let us go up the Little Conewago, south from Biesecker's. About a mile up the stream we come to the remains of a head race and dam on the property of the Susquehanna Pipe Line Company. The mill is gone, but George Beck tells me he remembers it well as a boy, having washed his father's buggy in the tail race of this secluded mill many times on a Sunday when not wishing to be seen at such a task by the conservative neighbors. The deeds of this property are recorded all the way back to the original land grant from Richard and Thomas Penn to John Appleman in 1762. It remained in the Appleman family until 1865 and the mill was built by some member of the family during this period. It was Samuel Gross and his widow's from 1865 to 1892, Martin Brillhart's from 1892 to 1893, Luther Galletin's from 1893 to 1900, August and William Felty's from 1900 to 1901, David G. Deardorff's till 1922. Sometime during the Deardorff ownership the mill was torn down and the lumber used for a corn barn. The waterwheel was a wooden overshot, which in later years had a steel hub and spokes. George Beck says this was supplanted by a small turbine in a plank flume—he knows because he took baths in it. Some of the names by which the mill was known, such as Shelly's and Holtzapple's, must have been renters and not owners.

Up the creek still further—south of Thomasville—was Spangler's Mill. Daniel Spangler in 1829 built a fine stone house which is still there on the Thomasville Lime and Stone Company property. He probably also built the white frame and stone mill which was there until about 1914. His son George bought a turbine from our Company on May 28, 1885, entered in our order book as follows: "George Spangler, 7 miles West of York near the turnpike. Head of water varies from 4½ to 6 ft. Size of choppers, 40" diameter. One left hand 27" No. 2 Improved Success Water Wheel." There follows a list of other items—total price, $250 "cash to be paid before seeding time for the wheel." George's son, William Spangler, later ran the mill until it was sold to the stone quarry.

Going down the Little Conewago from Biesecker's we first come to Emig's Mill. It was a large 3½ story stone mill built in 1825 by Jacob and Mary Emig. A head of 13 ft. was provided by a stone dam and power was originally developed by two wooden overshot wheels, hand made with tree trunks for shafts. One of the wheels operated two flour stones and the other two feed stones. Jacob's son Gabriel inherited the mill in 1892 and a year later replaced both wheels with one S.M.S. 18" No. 2 Success in a globe case for $180. Reuben Emig acquired the mill in 1899 and, being new at the milling business, hired a miller by the name of Beaverson. Together they reconditioned the mill and waterways and in a short time Reuben became a good miller. The business flourished and soon the 18" Success was inadequate so he installed a boiler and steam engine, and two flour rollers to replace the flour stones. However, the turbine still saw continuous service as there were many orders for

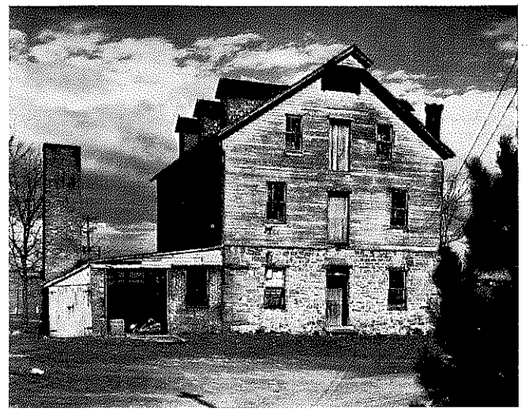
Norman Menges' saw mill near the headwaters of Paradise Creek, close to the Pigeon Hills. This is the only house combined with a saw mill still in operation in York County.

Emig's Mill—Built in 1825 and always owned and operated by members of the family. An 18" No. 2 Success Turbine was installed in 1893 and saw continuous service until 1921. Although the mill has recently been converted into apartments the turbine is still there buried in the basement.

repair parts for it. In 1915 Reuben retired to York and rented the mill to his nephew, Howard Emig. Howard reconditioned the mill and did well; he worked hard, was friendly with the farmers and worked up a thriving feed and custom grinding business. In two years he was asked to move out and make way for Reuben's son Robert. He operated it for a few years—the old dam constantly requiring attention and in 1921 a flood took the dam and ended the mill's operation for all time.

Downstream at the Dover road is the old Kurtis Coxen Mill. I call it that with reservations as it is known by many names—Weigle, Beltzhoover, Gross, Neiman, Katz, but Coxen was the last man to own it as a mill—and Walter Holtzapple of Shiloh, who rented it, was the last man to operate it. Much has been written about this mill for nearby on the other side of the road was one of the earliest mills in York County, built in 1738 by Martin Weigle with the help of some Indians. Just when the present mill was built or by whom I have not definitely determined but it is probably pre-Revolutionary. Our former Pattern Shop foreman, Peter Bentzel, I am told, put the present siding on the building. Our Company furnished in 1889 a 30" No. 2 Success for this mill, "Price, $180, $100 of which is to be cash when wheel is shipped, on condition that I get the order for all rubber, leather and cotton belting used in the mill." In 1900 this turbine was replaced with a "21" McCormick turbine, gates to close very tight, 7' head, also one Coursey Corn Crusher." Evidently this turbine was not too satisfactory (the speed was probably too high) for five months later it was replaced by another 30" No. 2 Success. This turbine continued in service to the end and is still buried there in the mud washed in during floods. Another interesting feature of this mill's record is that S. Morgan Smith Company in 1903 furnished a "boiler 48" diameter by 14 ft. long with 48—3" tubes, price, $420 f.o.b. wagon our factory."

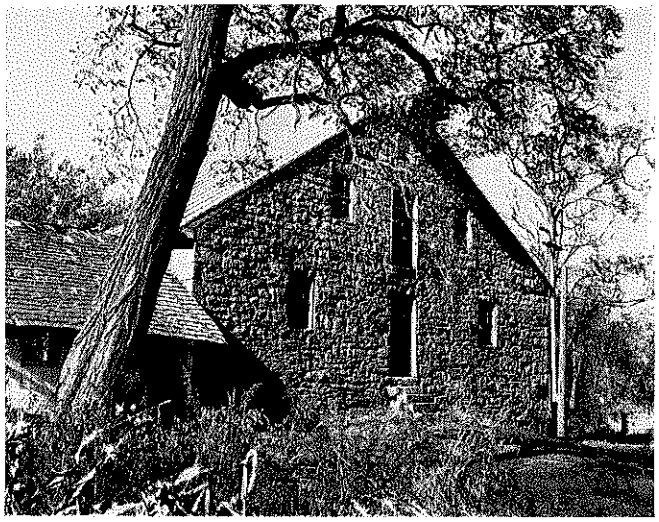
About two miles farther down, east of the Bull Road, was George Shettle's Mill, formerly Amos Bentzel's. This is an historic place—and good records are available back to a will by George Shram dated Oct. 3, 1772 (when Napoleon was a lad of three). Quoting the will—"to my wife Elizabeth, my farm with 1½ story log house, stone kitchen, log stable and carpenter-shop." The first mill of stone was not built until sometime between 1841 and 1871, during George Meisenhelter's ownership. It was subsequently owned by John S. Stough, Jacob Swartz and Amos Bentzel. During the latter's ownership the old mill burned out and Daniel Keener, who later worked at S.M.S., was trapped on the 3rd floor of the mill and had to slide down the hoisting rope to escape. Amos Bentzel rebuilt the mill of frame and enlarged it, installing 3—24" Reichard turbines built by the Eyster Weiser Company on West Philadelphia Street at the Codorus. These turbines remained in service for the remaining life of the mill, one for feed stones, one for the corn crusher and hoisting jack and the third was intended for 3 stand of Wolfe Flour Rollers, but Amos' son Harvey died and Amos cancelled the order. George D. Shettle bought this mill in 1922 and continued operation until 1945. The custom grinding business gradually died off—caused principally by travelling grinders on trucks which went from farm to farm. Also, some farmers began taking their business to York where large high-



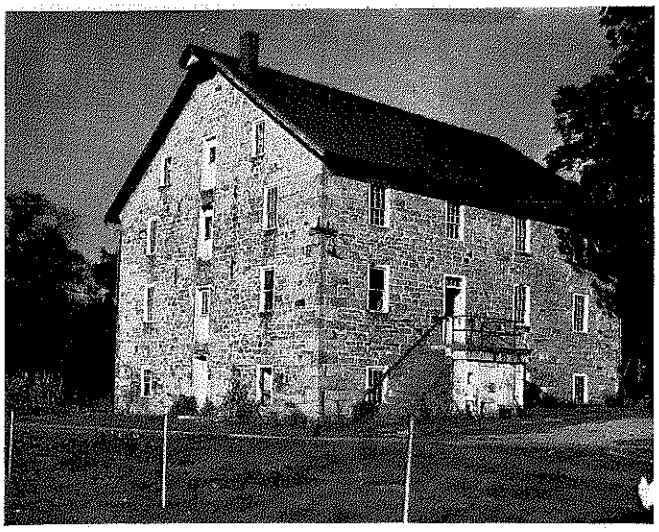
Kurtis Coxen Mill as it still stands today on the road to Dover. S.M.S. Company supplied three turbines and a boiler for this mill. It once was a thriving flour and feed mill but has not been operated since about 1931. It is now owned by Richard McCulloch.

his uncle near there—in fact, he says that he was there a few days after the mill burned and remembers the grain had been thrown out on the ground all around the mill. The large wooden overshot wheel was still intact, it having been left running during the fire. The mill belonged to Peter S. Kunkle at the time and he had owned it since 1883. Before that, to 1866 it was Henry H. Kochenour's and before that it belonged to another Peter Kunkle, who had gotten it just a few months before from Sam Quick. There the trail ends for Sam Quick neglected to have his deed recorded. There is nothing left of this very old mill but part of the old log shaft, the head race and the dam. Most of the stones from the building were sold about 1915 by the present owner, Ivan Wallick, to Samuel Small for use around Sinking Springs Farm for bridges over gulleys.

Now, further down the Little Conewago at the Susquehanna Trail we come to one of the most historic and best known Old Mill sites in the county—now known as the "Old Mill Inn." Fortunately, the present owner, J. Earl Frye, has kept practically all the old deeds and other documents back to 1783. The deed of that date from George Fink to John Updegraff gave the latter "full and free liberty of each bank of the creek to adjoin and erect a mill dam so as he shall think fit for any mills or waterworks whatsoever." The price was 40 pounds. When John Updegraff sold the same property to Philip Hoffman in 1790 the deed specifically mentions "mills and millhouses thereon" and the price was 500 pounds. These documents are conclusive evidence that John Updegraff built the mill sometime between 1783 and 1790. Subsequent owners were: the Hoffman family (four generations), Henry Kochenour, George Smyser, Samuel Lichtenberger and George Gross, the latter from 1869 to 1893. In 1877 Gross replaced the old overshot waterwheel with a turbine having a 36″ Success runner, which was the largest size S. Morgan Smith had built, having started in the turbine business only a few months before. The turbine itself cost $360, the total order amounting to $677.25, including $130 for millwright work. This turbine was rated at 7.5 ft. head, 100 R.P.M., 16 H.P. It remained in service until at least 1898, when a new lignum vitae step was purchased for it.



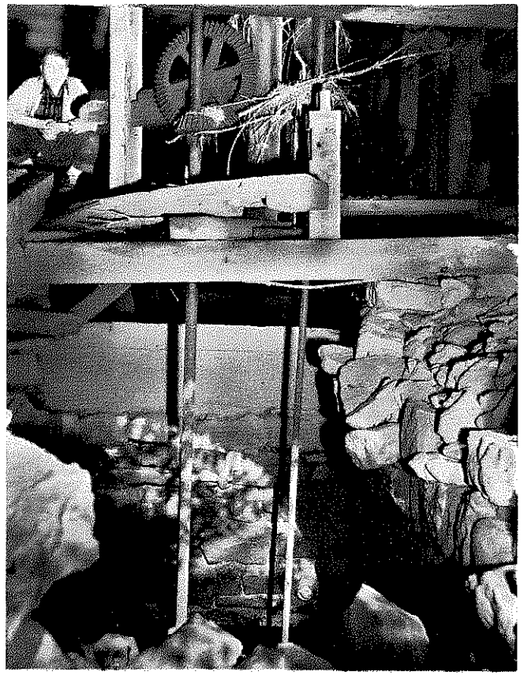
"King's Mill"—Owned by Dr. Harry B. King of York and operated from 1887 to 1919 for him by Alexander Deisinger, then owned and operated by Romanus Anderson till 1934. Standing as shown till 1948 when torn down by present owner, Charles Axe of our Plate Shop.



This fine looking mill was built by David and Elizabeth Bensel in 1833 near Foustown. In 1877 S.M.S. furnished two 27″ Success turbines here. Later there was a large box factory adjacent to it and we also furnished equipment for that. While the mill still stands it hasn't been operated since about 1930.

After Gross died, Jacob B. Kunkel bought the mill in 1893 for $7,000, but subject to a dower fund of $2,000 in favor of the widow Gross. This Kunkel has been connected with several York County Mills but was never long at one mill. His policy, I have been told, was to buy a mill at a bargain or in poor condition, reestablish it and sell out at a profit. He probably did this here. Later S.M.S. records mention a 27″ Reichard turbine in this mill. Kunkel may have put this in alongside the 36″ Smith; and it was Kunkel who installed the flour rolls.

In 1897 John Meisenhelter bought the mill for $9,000, still subject to the dower fund. A sheet iron name plate on the front of the mill (seen from the 2nd floor porch) bears the inscription, "Roller Mill, J. Meisenhelter, Nov. 10, 1897," which is still in place. In 1904 John Meisenhelter bought a 21″ New Success turbine rated at 7½ ft. head, 16 H.P., 185 R.P.M. On Nov. 9, 1903, Gross' widow having died, he paid each of the eight Gross children $250 in discharge of the $2,000 dower fund left by George Gross.



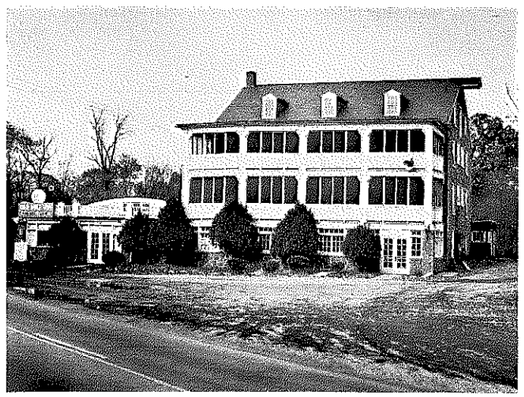
Old Turbine buried in mud, and driving gears in wheel pit at King's Mill. Wall in background is not part of original structure but was built when turbine was installed—original power was from a wooden overshot.

From 1912 to 1914 the mill was owned by George Jordan, now president of the Drovers and Mechanics National Bank. In 1914-1915 William R. Spangler owned and operated this mill. He was a good miller, but old and evidently not a good salesman. J. Earl Frye visited him and began selling for him but shortly thereafter Spangler died after eating a hearty chicken dinner.

Frye, though new to milling, thought he would like it and so informed his father, State Assemblyman John H. Frye. They went to the public sale of the property and bought it. The Fryes immediately set about improving the mill, buying new machinery from August Wolf and Company of Chambersburg. The water power was also improved. S.M.S. was called in and Eugene U. Gibbs ("Pop" to the oldtimers) went out to the mill. At Gibbs' recommendation the 21″ New Success bought in 1904 was brought into our shop, reconditioned and reinstalled. This turbine was the only one left in the mill and it could be geared to drive two 5 ft. burrs, a 250 bu. per hr. receiving separator, four 12″ double flour rollers, a gyrating sifter, a 12 ft. bolter, a middlings mill, flour and feed packers—in fact, this turbine ran the whole mill. The output was a barrel of flour per hour (196 lbs.), all of which was sold for a time to the American Stores. Business went hand in hand with romance and Earl Frye married the manager of the store.

Then came the war and the entire output of the mill went to the French Army. After the war this mill continued at full capacity, supplying local stores until 1922, when Earl Frye found the dust of the mill seriously affecting his health. In 1925 it was decided to convert the mill into a hotel, in several variations of which it has continued to this day.

Dam at the Old Mill Inn. Thousands of Yorkers both young and old have swum in summer and skated in winter above this dam which creates a half mile of still water lined with beautiful willows.



The Old Mill Inn on the Susquehanna Trail as it appears today. About the only reminder today that it was once a mill is the "Martin Box" on the end where once the hoisting rope went over a pulley. This was a favorite place for martins to nest at most mills.

Only two more mills were below the Old Mill Inn, both now torn down. The first was William Conley's, for which in 1882 S.M.S. furnished a 27″ Success, in 1887 a 13″ No. 1 Success in a steel case, in 1898 another 27″ Success and in 1905 a 24″ New Success. Operation of the mill continued until about 1920. Prior to the Conleys' ownership the mill belonged to David Fink from 1884 to 1894 and before that it was Samuel Brenneman's. There the trail is lost until 1821 when it was Baker's.

The last mill on the Little Conewago, just a few yards above its junction with the Main Conewago, was last owned and operated by William E. Kline and his son Charles, now of Manchester. It was a 44 x 46 ft. 2½ story frame building with stone foundation. On the D. Small and W. Wagner map of 1821 this mill is shown as "Star." Subsequent owners were Brenneman, Blessing, Abraham France, who purchased in 1877 one 30″ and one 27″ Success turbines for it, Peter M. Altland, who purchased in 1888 a 36″ No. 1 Success and a No. 5 Saw Mill with 22′ x 4′ carriage and ways 40 ft. long. Prior to 1888, according to Charles Kline, the saw mill had an up and down saw operated by an overshot wheel. It was during Altland's ownership that the making of flour by stones was abandoned and henceforth the mill was exclusively a feed and saw mill. Later, Elmer Fetrow owned and operated it—as of 1913, then Emma R. Altland, Franklin D. Shaffer, 1915, and last, William E. Kline, 1921. The turbines were there during Kline's ownership but the dam was not in good condition and the mill was operated by gasoline engine power. When Kline tore the mill down in 1929, there were two S.M.S. turbines and one made by Steacy Schmidt: these were broken up and sold for junk. Kline says the end of this mill came partly because the farmers, in ever-increasing numbers, were buying small attrition mills and doing their own grinding.

Reproduction from a very old snapshot of William Conley's Mill near Manchester, then Liverpool. It was gradually torn down starting about 1928 and the materials were used elsewhere as recently as 1940. S.M.S. furnished four turbines here between 1882 and 1905.

Well, here we are at the bridge where the Little Conewago joins the "Great" Conewago (so named on a map made by D. Small and W. Wagner in 1821). We have had a brief look at 14 mills—only two of which are going concerns today. Why are the others silent? There is no one answer that fits them all; floods, fires, reduced flow in the streams, wearing out of parts and no

All that's left of Conley's Mill is a 24″ New Success turbine buried in the earth with the shaft exposed, some old timbers of the wheel pit and a few millstones. The race, however, is still a pretty place for a picnic.

Remains of Kline's Mill at the mouth of the Little Conewago Creek. The stone arch of the tailrace built about 1800 is a masterpiece of masonry which would still hold a truck. The fine old mill house on the hill is still in good condition.

money for new equipment, tougher competition from larger, better situated and more efficient mills, and many other factors contributed.

But let us not be too sentimental about the so-called "good old days." Consider our own Company. Did it abandon the turbine business when the Old Mill Era of 10 to 50 H.P. turbines ended? No indeed! We, through constantly improving design and production methods, have led the way with larger and larger and better and better turbines which have helped not only ourselves but millions of people everywhere to enjoy better living.

AUTHOR'S NOTE: In the process of preparing this article, I have introduced myself to a great many people who in some way are connected with the mills described. These York County folk have hunted for old pictures, have lent and even given me historic records, have been friendly and cooperative in every way possible. I have greatly enjoyed meeting each of these people and appreciate very much everything they have done for me. Each one of them will receive copies of this issue. They have provided me with much more information than it is possible to print here but it will all be preserved eventually in the York County Historical Society.

You may have wondered why sometimes I use the term "overshoot" wheel while at others "overshot." The latter is the general term applied by text books and users of this type wheel. The Fitz Water Wheel Company of Hanover, however, describe their particular product on the letterhead and in catalogues as the "Fitz Steel Overshoot Wheel." So, if it's a Fitz it's an overshoot, otherwise it's an overshot.

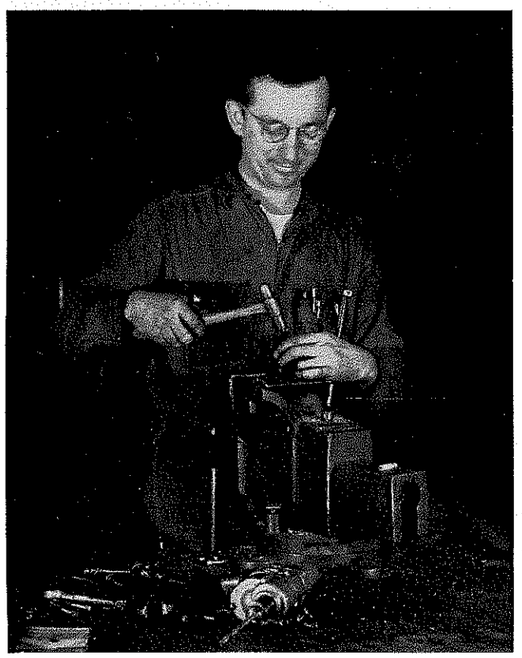
Courage

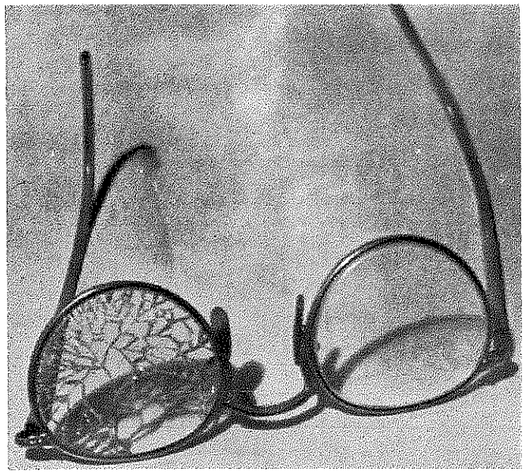
A great deal of talent is lost in the world for want of a little courage. Every day sends to their graves obscure men whom timidity prevented from making a first effort, who, if they could have been induced to begin, would in, all probability, have gone great lengths in the career of fame.

The fact is, that to do anything in the world worth doing, we must not stand back shivering and think of the cold and danger, but jump in and scramble through as well as we can.

It will not do to be perpetually calculating risks and adjusting nice chances. It did very well before the Flood, when a man would consult his friends upon an intended publication for 150 years, and live to see his success afterwards. But at present, a man waits, doubts, and consults his brother, and his particular friends. One day he finds he is 60 years old and that he has lost so much time in consulting cousins and friends that he has no more time to follow their advice.

IT PAYS TO PROTECT





While trying to chisel out a broken tap from a piece of work, a sharp piece of the tap flew against the Safety Glasses of George Heiss of the Electrical Department and shattered them as shown in the accompanying photograph. To the left is a photo of George at the vice just as he was when the accident occurred. To George, as it should be to all of us, this was a great eye opener. If you have Safety Glasses always wear them, and if you don't have any, see the nurse or the Personnel Dept. immediately. It pays to protect your eyes.

UP and DOWN the AISLE

JESSE G. ROWE

On the eve of his retirement from the S. Morgan Smith Company, Jesse G. Rowe died at his home, 220 S. Hartley Street, on January 31 at 6:55 P. M. after a lingering illness. He was 68 years old.

Known to almost everyone within the Company and to the many visitors to the plants as a friendly and thoughtful person, his death came as a personal loss to everyone who knew him.

For the past eleven years he was employed as a guard and was known throughout the city of York as an Auctioneer for the past 35 years.

He is survived by his wife, Emma May Rowe, and the following children: Mrs. Beatrice Miller, 217 Green St.; Jesse N. Rowe, San Diego, Calif.; Mrs. Helen Englar, Milton, Pa.; Herbert Lee Rowe, at home; and James G. Rowe, 570 Company St.

Funeral services were held from the Blaine K. Decker Funeral Home with Rev. Arthur Grove, Pastor of Zion Reformed Church, officiating. Interment was in Greenmount Cemetery.

Serving as pallbearers were: Herbert Rowe, Eugene Rowe, Melvin Miller, E. Everett Pierce, Jr., Paul Leber and James Rowe.

During the month of January and February the stork visited the homes of four S.M.S. employees, to whom we extend our most hearty congratulations. They are:

Mr. and Mrs. Gerard Neiderer, whose first child, a son, was born at the Hanover General Hospital on January 16. John Robert weighed seven pounds 13 ounces at birth. Gerry is employed in the Stock Gallery as a Stockkeeper.

Mr. and Mrs. William Enterline, to whom a son was born on February 2 at the West Side Osteopathic Hospital. John Raymond weighed six pounds three ounces at birth and is the fifth son born to the Enterlines. Bill is employed in Dept. A as a Machinist.

Mr. and Mrs. Clair Ness, whose fifth child was born on February 9 at their home. Mary Jane Ness weighed eight pounds eight ounces at birth. Clair is employed in the Plate Shop as a sweeper.

Mr. and Mrs. George Sprigle, to whom a son was born on February 13 at the York Hospital. Daniel Michael, the Sprigles' fourth son, weighed six pounds two ounces at birth. George is employed as a Stockkeeper in the Valve Department storeroom.

Betcha Doubt It!
WELL - THAT'S ONE WAY TO GET UP HERE!
LLOYD SHAFFER FLOOR*1 has travelled approximately 190 MILES — UP A LADDER!
Lloyd has been a Crane operator for 33 yrs.
GID-DAP!
Ever see that old two-wheeled utility cart used by construction crews around the shop?
These same wheels descended from an old four-wheeled wagon used to transport heavy items about the premises, years ago.
When draying around the plant, was required S. MORGAN SMITH'S horse "Billy" was borrowed for this purpose!
Chas. Snyder, Cost Dept sent this one in:
If it were possible to fold a large blueprint on itself 30 times, the result would measure 67.5 MILES HIGH!
YEAH - BUT JUST TRY AN DO IT!

You Too Can Help Through

RED CROSS

1949 Drive Begins March 1

S. Morgan Smith Quota

$1,275.00

or $1.25 per employee